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COMICS

featuring **SUPERBOY** and the
LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES

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NO. 366



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**"BATTLE for the
CHAMPIONSHIP
of the UNIVERSE!"**

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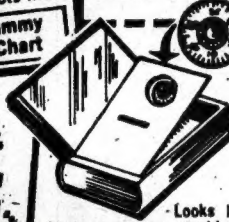
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Yes—Looks like real chewing gum but tastes like ONIONS! Its too funny! 5" slices to a pack. No. 281 20c



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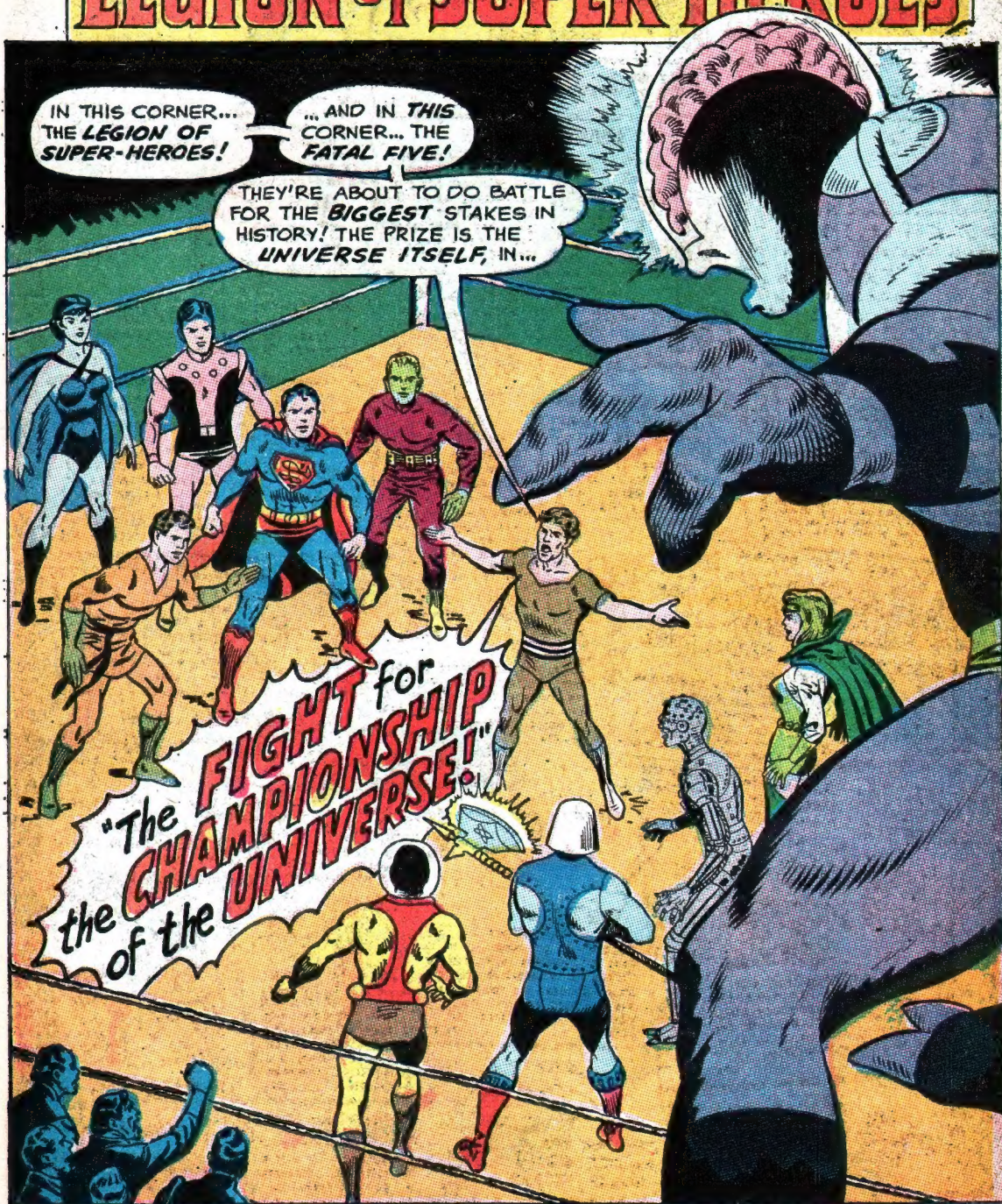
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TALES OF THE LEGION of SUPER-HEROES



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ON THE PLANET
TALOK, THE
ARMED MIGHT
OF THAT WORLD
STRIKES... AT
FIVE YOUTHS...

ATTACK!

KILL THE
LEGIONNAIRES!

LOOK OUT! EVEN
THOUGH THEY'RE
ARMED WITH
ANCIENT WEAPONS,
THEY OUTNUMBER
US A THOUSAND
TO ONE!

CAREFUL, BUDDIES!
THOSE WEAPONS MAY
NOT BE AS HARMLESS
AS YOU THINK!

WHY NOT? THEY'RE
JUST ORDINARY, OLD
RELICS... I'LL CRUSH
THOSE TIN SHIELDS LIKE
BALSA WOOD...
EYOW!

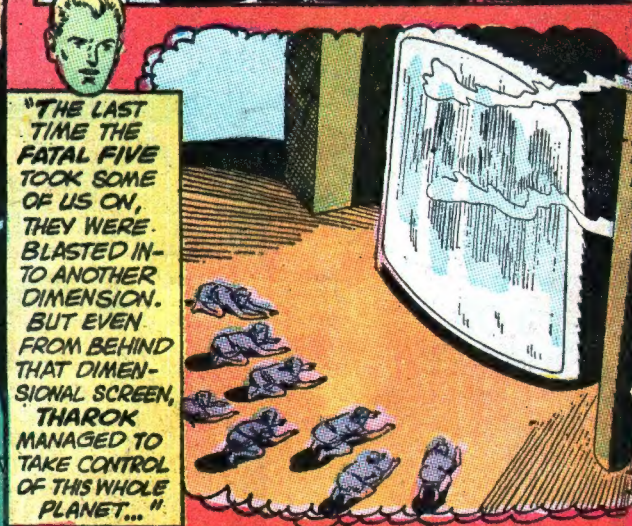
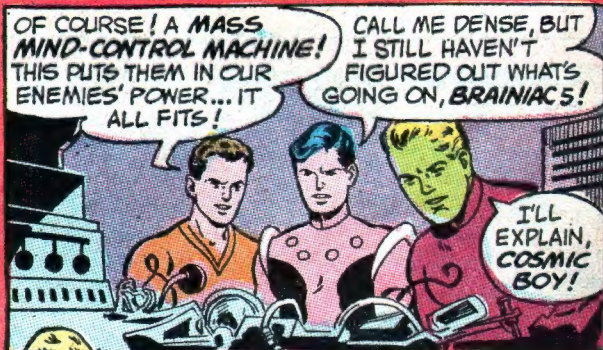
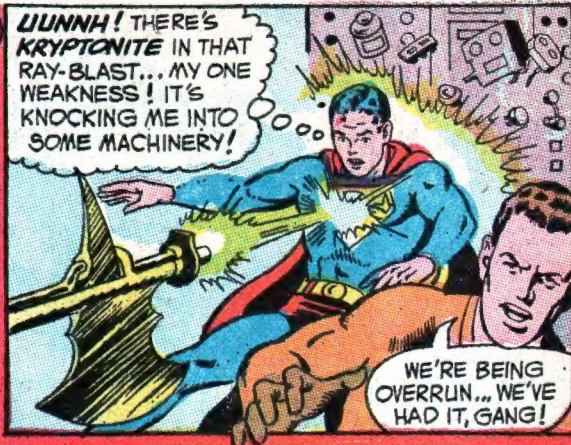
NOW
NOTHING,
BUDDY!

NEXT TIME,
KARATE KID,
LISTEN TO THE
EXPERT!
**SHADOW LASS
WAS BORN
ON THIS
PLANET!**

HA! FOOL!
MY STUNNER
SHIELD IS NOT
ONLY UNCRUSH-
ABLE, BUT IT HAS
A BUILT-IN SUR-
PRISE FOR
UNWARY
ENEMIES!
NOW...

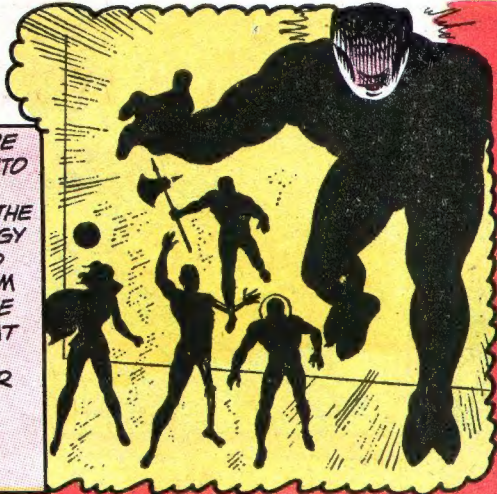
OBVIOUSLY, TALOK DIDN'T
ABANDON THE FORMS OF
ANCIENT WEAPONS, BUT
ATTEMPTED TO MODERNIZE
THEM...

...AND
SUCCEEDED!
OHH! I'LL
NEVER
DOUBT
SHADY
AGAIN!





"THEN WE WERE SUCKERED INTO POWERFUL TRAPS... AND THE SUPER-ENERGY WE USED TO ESCAPE THEM POWERED THE GADGETS THAT SMASHED THE BARRIER AND FREED THE FATAL FIVE..."



THEN, NO DOUBT, THEY TOOK OFF, LEAVING THE SOLDIER BOYS THERE TO FINISH US!

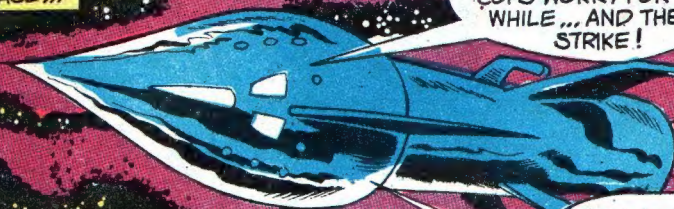
WELL, THERE'S NOTHING ELSE HERE FOR US TO FOUL UP! LET'S GET AFTER THE FIVE!

WE CAN FIND A SHIP AT THE SPACEPORT!



MEANWHILE, IN DEEP SPACE...

WE SHOULD HOLE UP SOMEWHERE... LET THE COPS WORRY FOR A WHILE... AND THEN STRIKE!



FOOL! WE'VE BEEN "HOLED UP" FOR MONTHS! WE MUST STRIKE NOW! AND I SAY THE GALACTIC BANK IS A GOOD TARGET!

NO ONE PUSHES ME AROUND, **PERSUADER**! I WIPED OUT A WHOLE PLANET OF NO-ACCOUNTS LIKE YOU ONCE... ADDING ONE MORE TO THE LIST WOULDN'T BOTHER ME!



WHY, YOU...

PERSUADER! MANO! BOTH OF YOU SHUT UP! I MAKE THE DECISIONS AROUND HERE!

OH, YEAH? WELL I'M SICK OF YOUR DECISIONS, **THAROK**! I'LL...



COOL IT, **PERSUADER**! HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN... **VALIDUS**?

CONTINUED ON 322 PAGE FOLLOWING.

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model car racing

BY THE
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CAR MODEL
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SCALE PLANS FOR 12 MAJOR
INTERNATIONAL ROAD COURSES

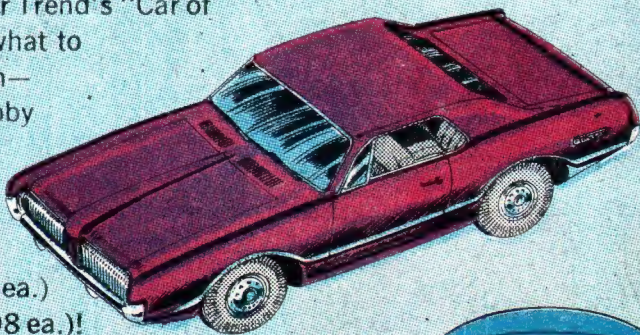
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GUIDE TO
HO SCALE
RACING

Everything you'd
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HO car racing is in
this brand new book.
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just too brand new!

It's a great book, jam-packed with facts and pictures. How to set up your own HO Riverside, or any of 11 other big league tracks. How to landscape a layout. How to get top performance out of your cars. The editors of "Car Model" magazine put it together, so you know it's got everything. Well, almost everything. They just couldn't wait to include these hot-off-the-press track sections ...



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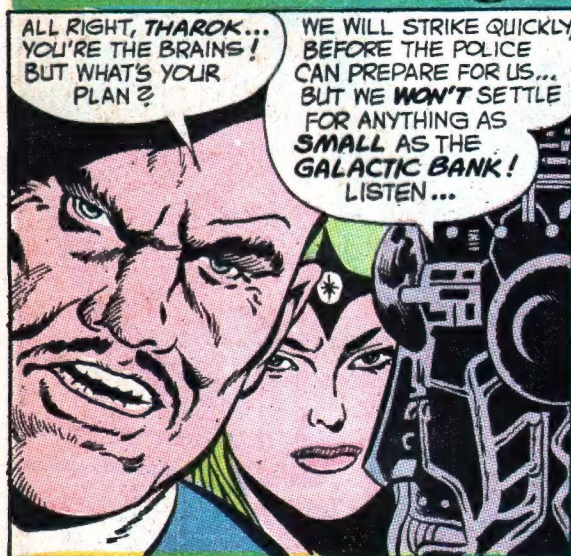


HERS
A NEW
KIND
OF
SUPERMAN
COMING



YES...**VALIDUS!** THE MOST **POWERFUL** BEING IN THE GALAXY! HE COULD CRUSH YOU **ALL** IN ONE MIGHTY FIST! HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN HOW I **STRENGTHENED** MY CONTROL OVER HIM WHILE IN THE OTHER DIMENSION?

YOU'LL OBEY ME... OR **VALIDUS** WILL SNUFF OUT YOUR PUNY LIVES!



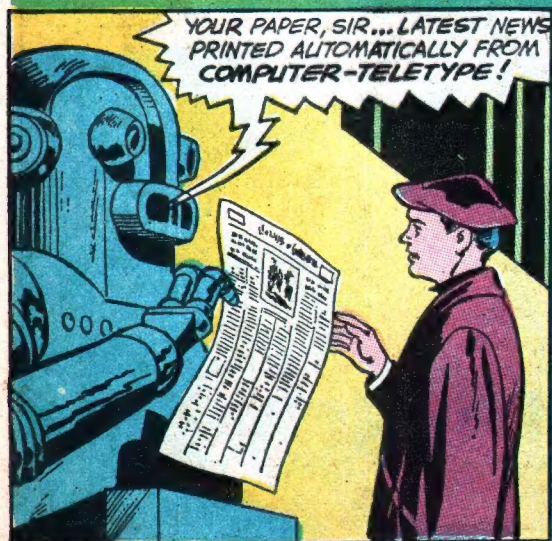
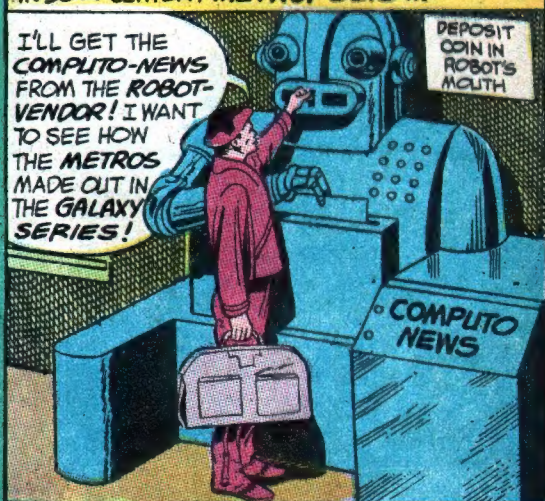
ALL RIGHT, **THAROK**... YOU'RE THE BRAINS! BUT WHAT'S YOUR PLAN?

WE WILL STRIKE QUICKLY, BEFORE THE POLICE CAN PREPARE FOR US... BUT WE **WON'T** SETTLE FOR ANYTHING AS **SMALL** AS THE **GALACTIC BANK!** LISTEN...

LATER, AS A NORMAL WORK DAY COMMENCES IN 30th-CENTURY **METROPOLIS**...

I'LL GET THE **COMPU-NEWS** FROM THE **ROBOT-VENDOR!** I WANT TO SEE HOW THE **METROS** MADE OUT IN THE **GALAXY SERIES!**

DEPOSIT COIN IN ROBOT'S MOUTH



YOUR PAPER, SIR... LATEST NEWS PRINTED AUTOMATICALLY FROM **COMPUTER-TELETYPE!**



HMM... THE **NALTOR DREAMERS** TOOK THE SERIES! OH, WELL... WAIT TILL NEXT YEAR!

BLAZING COMETS! LOOK! WHAT IN THE COSMOS IS **THAT?**

I DON'T KNOW... BUT I'M NOT STAYING TO FIND OUT!



SARGE! QUICK! GET EVERY POSSIBLE MAN OVER TO CENTRAL SQUARE, AND DON'T SPARE THE HEAVY WEAPONS... VALIDUS IS BACK... AND ON A RAMPAGE!

MEANWHILE, ELSEWHERE IN THE GREAT CITY...

AND, HIGH ABOVE...

GOOD! VALIDUS AND MANO ARE FOLLOWING THAROK'S ORDERS WELL... HOLDING OFF DOZENS OF POLICE! NOW IT IS TIME FOR MY ACT!

THAROK WANTS ME TO DESTROY THE NINE WORLDS MONUMENT... DONE! NOTHING CAN SURVIVE THE DESTRUCTIVE POWER OF MY HAND!

THIS SHOULD BRING THE LAW ON THE DOUBLE!

USING THE POWER OF HER MYSTIC EMERALD EYE, THE EMPRESS WINGS THROUGH THE CITY, WREAKING HAVOC OF HER OWN...

HA, HA! I'M WIPING OUT ALL ELEVATED TRANSPORTATION! AND THE WHOLE SKY-POLICE SQUAD CAN'T BREAK THROUGH THE PROTECTIVE FORCE-FIELD ERECTED BY MY EYE!

MEANWHILE...

AS I PREDICTED, THE EMPRESS, MAMO, AND VALIDUS HAVE DE-CEYED EVERY COP IN THE CITY! EVEN THE UNITED PLANETS SECRET SERVICE GUARDS HAVE LEFT THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE TO HELP BATTLE THEM! THE PLACE IS UNGUARDED!

NOW IS THE TIME...

...TO **STRIKE!**

MR. PRESIDENT! CABINET MEMBERS! SURRENDER OR DIE!

AND, IN THE 30th-CENTURY EQUIVALENT OF THE PENTAGON...

WEAKLY DEFENDED, AS THAROK SAID! MY ATOMIC AXE WILL CLEAVE THESE DOORS...

IT'S THAROK!

AN INTRUDER!

IT'S THE PERSUADER! CALL SECURITY!

FORGET IT, MISTER! I JUST TOOK OVER HERE... IN THE NAME OF THE FATAL FIVE!

SOON...

ATTENTION, CITIZENS OF METROPOLIS... WE ARE NOW IN COMPLETE COMMAND OF THE CITY! OBEY US, OFFER NO RESISTANCE, AND YOU WILL NOT BE HARMED!

ALL EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS HAVE BEEN CUT! THE POLICE ARE IN THEIR OWN JAILS! THEY'VE EVEN CAPTURED THE PRESIDENT!

INCREDIBLE! METROPOLIS, CAPITAL OF THE UNITED PLANETS, TAKEN OVER BY CRIMINALS!

LATER, IN THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE, NEW HEADQUARTERS FOR THE FATAL FIVE...

DOESN'T IT GIVE YOU A FEELING OF POWER TO SIT IN THE PRESIDENT'S CHAIR, AXE-MAN?

BAH! THIS IS A FARCE!

THAROK! YOU'RE A FOOL! DO YOU THINK THAT JUST BY HOLDING THE CAPITOL OF THE U.P. YOU CAN CONTROL ALL ITS WORLDS? WHEN THE REST OF THE UNITED PLANETS GET THE WORD, THEY'LL SEND FORCES THAT EVEN WE CAN'T DEFEAT-- BECAUSE THEY'LL BE TOO NUMEROUS!

I'M NO FOOL...

...BUT I DO THINK HOLDING THE PALACE GIVES US CONTROL OF THE U.P., BECAUSE OF THIS!

I'LL BE-- THAT WALL'S SLIDING BACK.. REVEALING A MASSIVE CONTROL COMPLEX!

WHAT IS IT, THAROK?

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

YOU TOO CAN PLAY THE "GAME"



80 pg. GIANT ^G45

APR. 25¢

NO. 360



ACTION COMICS **SUPERGIRL**

**A COMIC FIRST!
A COMPLETE
BOOK-LENGTH NOVEL!**

IT'S AN EXCITING GAME!
I BEGIN AS "THE UNKNOWN
SUPERGIRL!"



starting **JAN 9th** AT YOUR NEWSDEALER

THIS IS THE **UNIVERSAL WEAPONS CONTROL PANEL!** IT WAS DESIGNED FOR USE IN THE FACE OF **ALL-OUT ATTACK...** IT CONTROLS **EVERY DEFENSIVE WEAPON OF EVERY PLANET** IN THE **U.P.!**

AND WE CONTROL IT! WE CAN FORCE 'EM TO THEIR KNEES WITH THEIR OWN WEAPONS!

HOW DOES IT WORK, THAROK?

THESE KEYS UNLOCK THE PANEL FOR USE! **THIS ONE** I BLASTED FROM THE **PENTAGON VAULT...** AND I RELIEVED THE PRESIDENT OF **THIS ONE!**

BUT... THERE ARE **THREE KEY-HOLES!**

WHA...AT?

THERE MUST BE A **THIRD KEY!**

WE HAVE TO GET IT... BUT **WHO** HAS IT?

TO MY HALF-HUMAN, HALF-ROBOT BRAIN, THAT'S **OBVIOUS!** COME!

MINUTES LATER...

THE **LEGION?**

OF COURSE! WHAT SAFER PLACE FOR PERHAPS THE MOST **IMPORTANT OBJECT** IN THE **UNIVERSE?**

THE PLACE LOOKS **DESERTED!** THE **TALOKITE ARMY** MUST HAVE FINISHED THE ONES WE LURED TO THEIR WORLD... AND THE OTHER **HEROES** ARE STILL OFF ON DIFFERENT **MISSIONS!**

SUPER-HEROES CLUBHOUSE

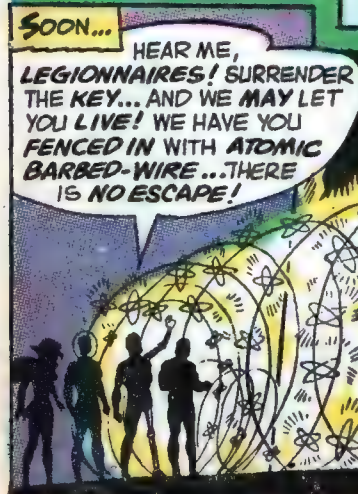
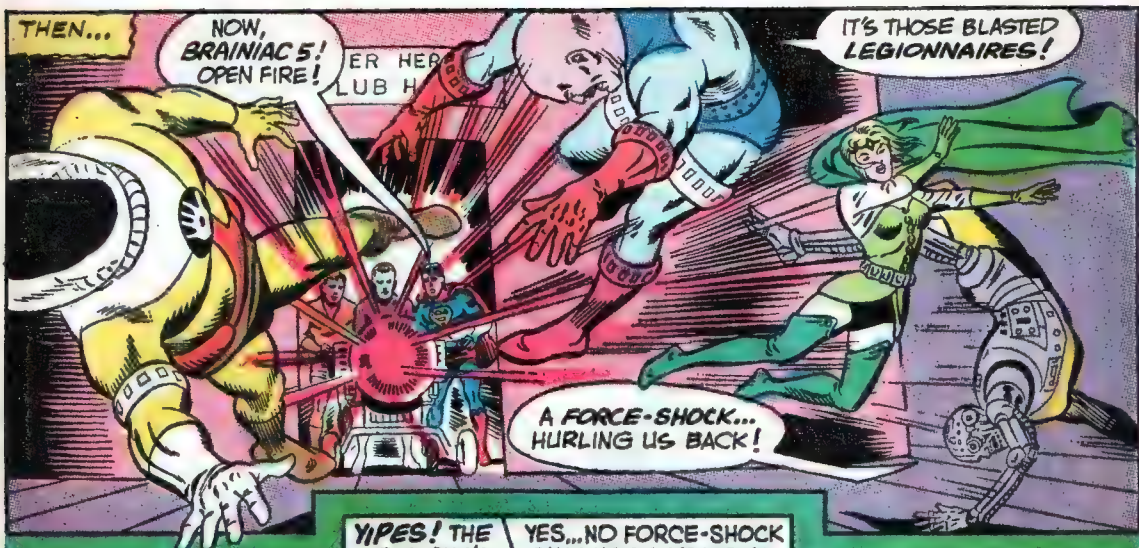
BUT...

SUPER-HEROES CLUBHOUSE

EYAAHHH!

THE **DOOR'S BOOBY-TRAPPED!**

USE YOUR **AXE, FOOL!** CHOP IT TO **PIECES!**



PART II

SHOWDOWN FOR SHADOW LASS!

ALL'S QUIET OUTSIDE!
THEY MUST BE GIVING
US TIME TO
CONSIDER!

BRAINIAC 5! I
WAS THINKING...

I DO IT
MYSELF
SOME-
TIMES!

WHY DON'T WE JUST
DESTROY THE KEY?
THAT'D KEEP IT OUT
OF THEIR HANDS!

WE DON'T DARE! THOUGH
IT IS VITAL TO THE FATAL
FIVE'S CONQUEST, IT'S
ALSO VITAL TO THE
SECURITY OF
THE U.P.!

SO MUCH FOR
THAT IDEA! WHAT
DO YOU HAVE IN
MIND?

WE'LL HOLD THE
FORT TILL THE
U.P. FORCES...OR THE
OTHER LEGIONNAIRES...
SHOW UP TO HELP US!

HMM...THAT DOESN'T SOUND TOO
HARD! AFTER ALL, WE HAVE LOTS
OF FOOD, WATER AND WEAPONS...
AND NOTHING ON EARTH CAN
CRACK THROUGH THE SPECIAL
ALLOYS OUR WALLS ARE MADE
OF!

GREAT
GALAXIES!
THE WALLS...

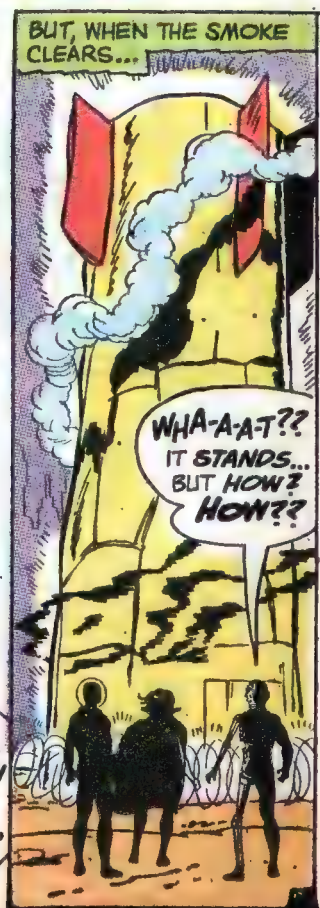
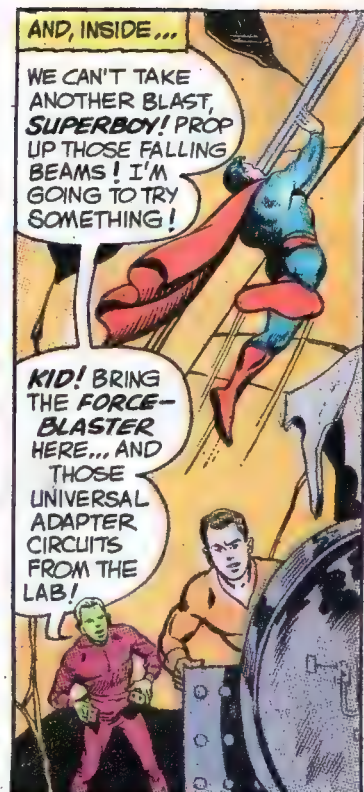
SUDDENLY...

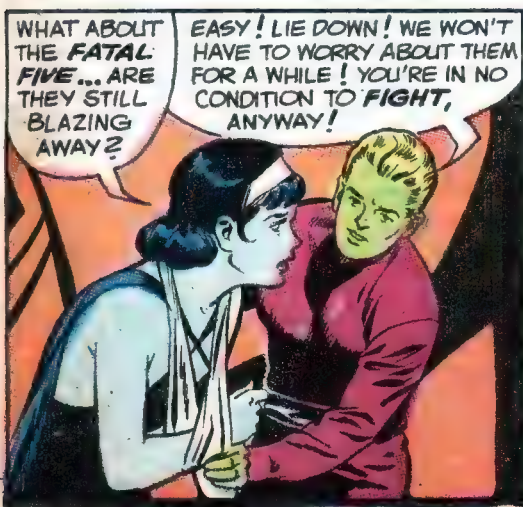
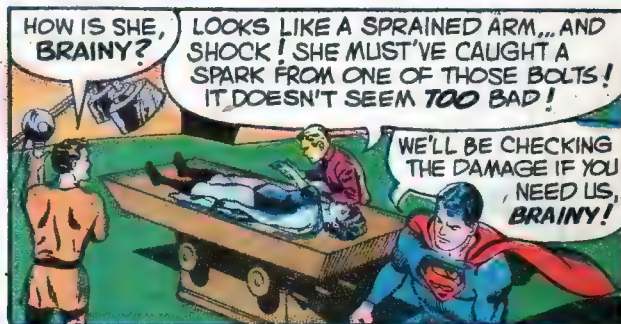
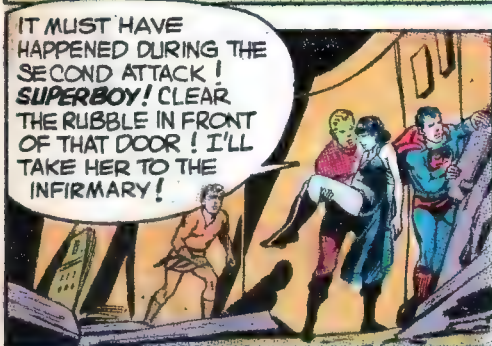
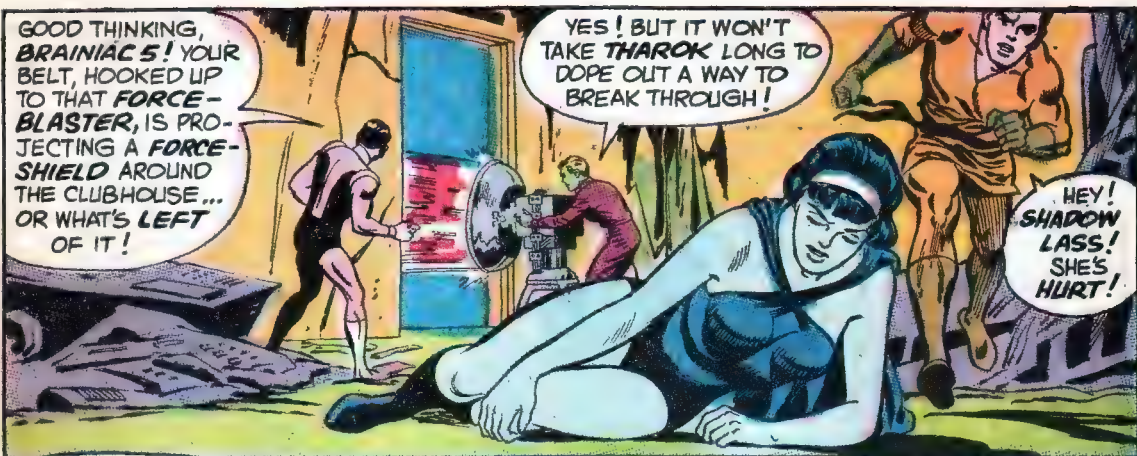
BLAM!

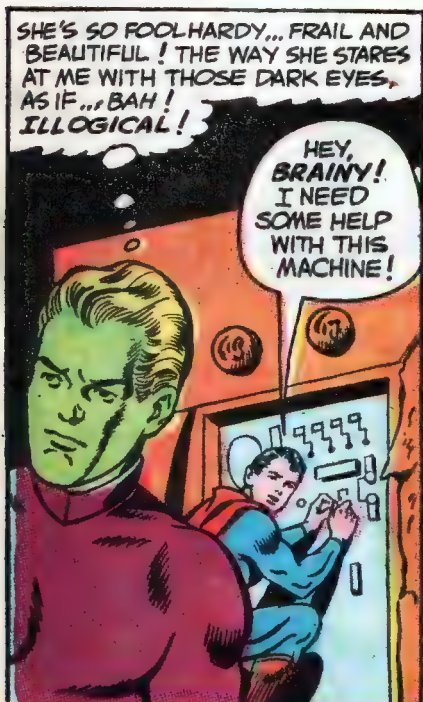
WHAT
HIT 'EM?

!GASP! THEY'RE
ALMOST CAVED IN!
THEY'RE STILL
QUIVERING FROM THAT
BLAST! BUT WHAT
COULD DO THAT?

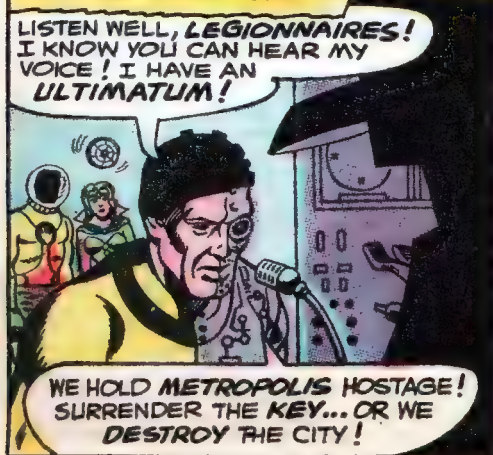
NOTHING FROM EARTH!
BUT THE FIVE HAVE A
WEAPON WHOSE ORIGIN
NO ONE KNOWS...THE
MOST POWERFUL
THERE IS...VALIDUS!

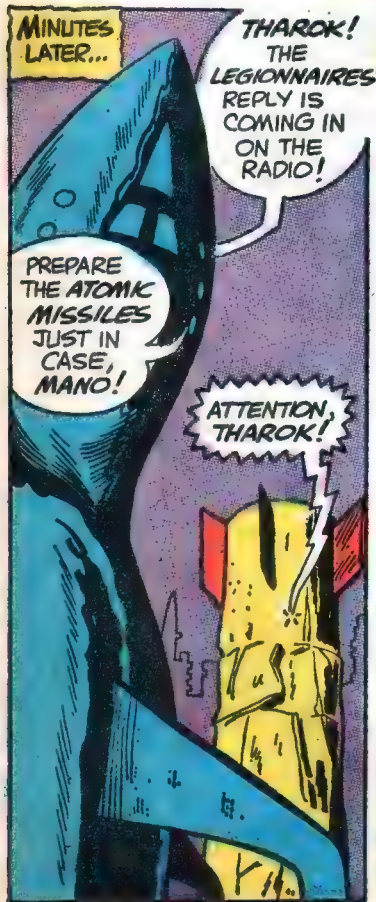
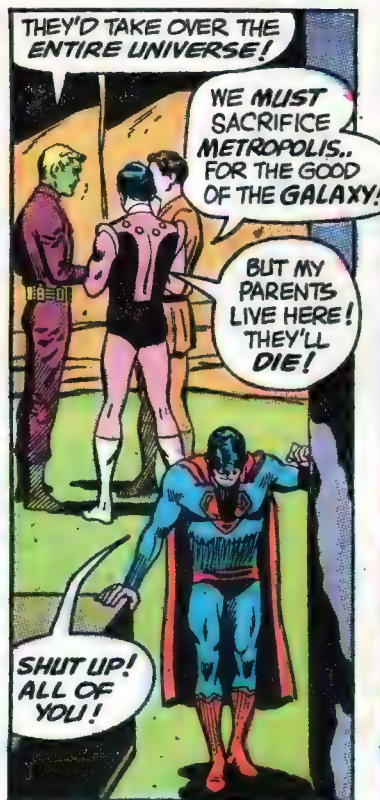


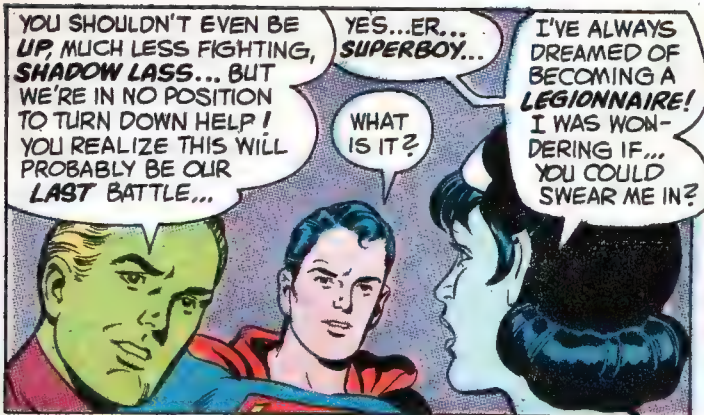




SOON, FROM THE CAPTURED SPACE-SHIP WHICH SERVES AS SIEGE HEADQUARTERS FOR THE FATAL FIVE ...





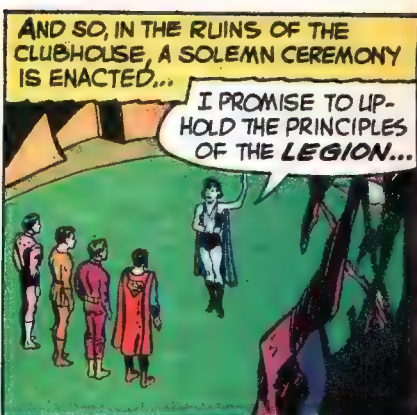


YOU SHOULDN'T EVEN BE UP, MUCH LESS FIGHTING, **SHADOW LASS**... BUT WE'RE IN NO POSITION TO TURN DOWN HELP! YOU REALIZE THIS WILL PROBABLY BE OUR **LAST BATTLE**...

YES...ER... **SUPERBOY**...

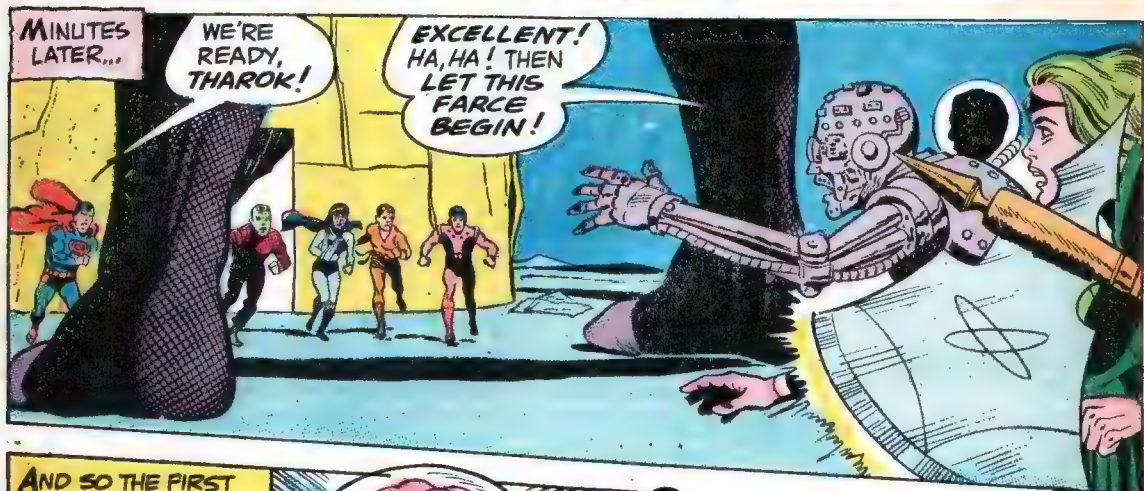
WHAT IS IT?

I'VE ALWAYS DREAMED OF BECOMING A **LEGIONNAIRE**! I WAS WONDERING IF... YOU COULD SWEAR ME IN?



AND SO, IN THE RUINS OF THE CLUBHOUSE, A SOLEMN CEREMONY IS ENACTED...

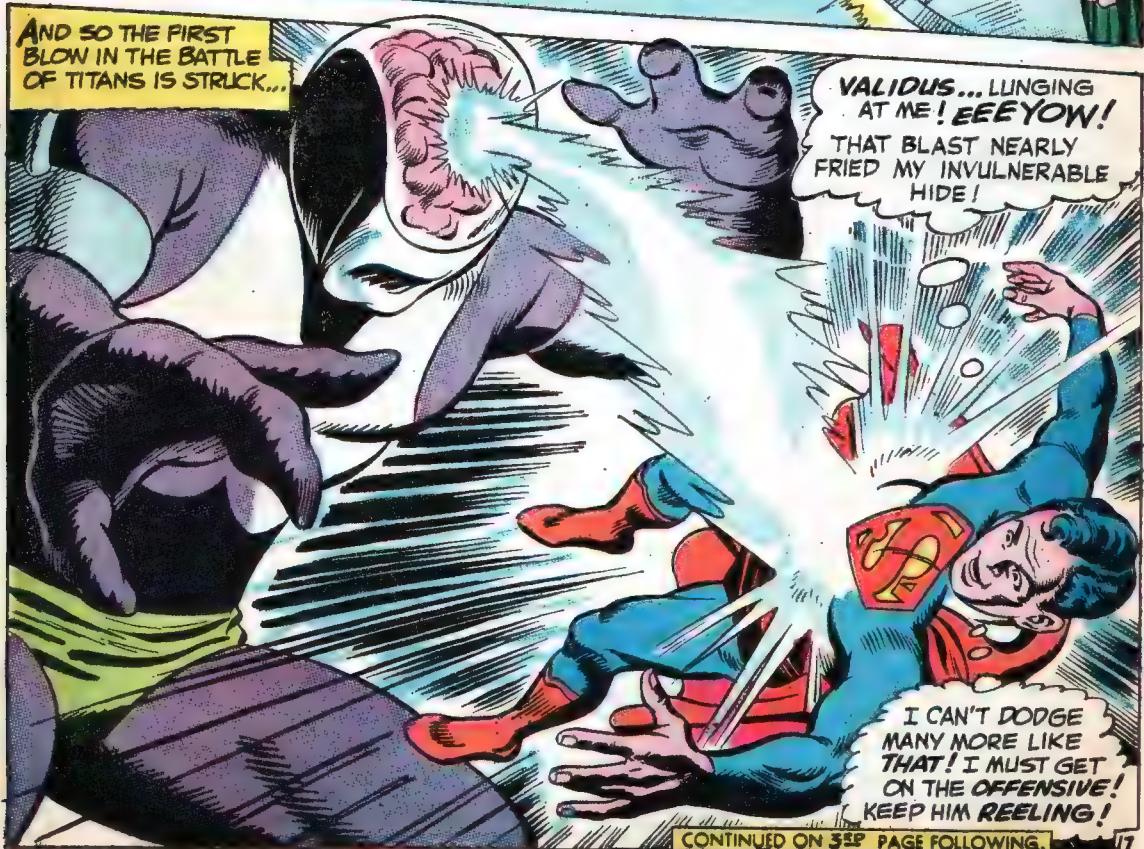
I PROMISE TO UPHOLD THE PRINCIPLES OF THE **LEGION**...



MINUTES LATER...

WE'RE READY, **THAROK**!

EXCELLENT! HA, HA! THEN LET THIS FARCE BEGIN!



AND SO THE FIRST BLOW IN THE BATTLE OF TITANS IS STRUCK...

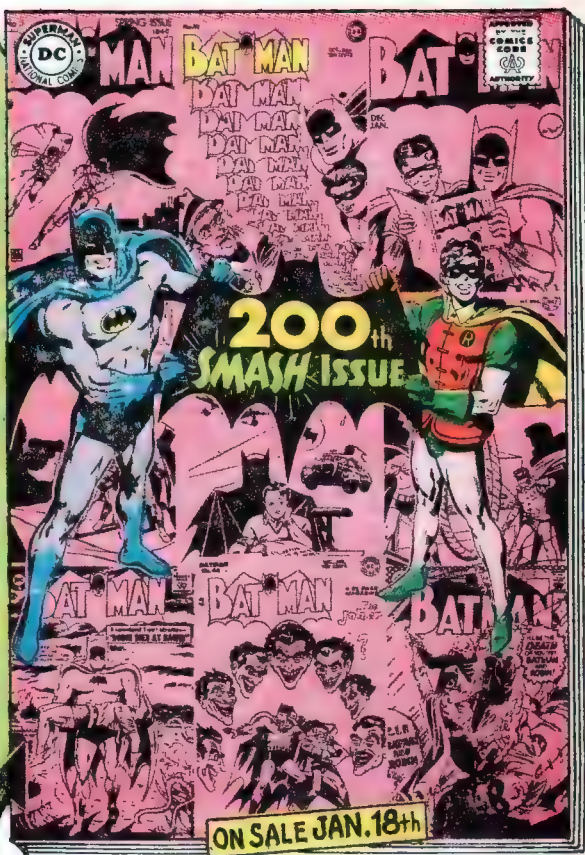
VALIDUS... LUNGING AT ME! **EEYOW!** THAT BLAST NEARLY FRIED MY INVULNERABLE HIDE!

I CAN'T DODGE MANY MORE LIKE THAT! I MUST GET ON THE OFFENSIVE! KEEP HIM REELING!

CONTINUED ON 358 PAGE FOLLOWING.

No.1 No.2 No.3 No.4 No.5 No.6 No.7 No.8 No.9
 No.10 No.11 No.12 No.13 No.14 No.15 No.16 No.17 No.18
 No.19 No.20 No.21 No.22 No.23 No.24 No.25 No.26 No.27
 No.28 No.29 No.30 No.31 No.32 No.33 No.34 No.35 No.36
 No.37 No.38 No.39 No.40 No.41 No.42 No.43 No.44 No.45
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 No.55 No.56 No.57 No.58 No.59 No.60 No.61 No.62 No.63
 No.64 No.65 No.66 No.67 No.68 No.69 No.70 No.71 No.72
 No.73 No.74 No.75 No.76 No.77 No.78 No.79 No.80 No.81
 No.82 No.83 No.84 No.85 No.86 No.87 No.88 No.89 No.90
 No.91 No.92 No.93 No.94 No.95 No.96 No.97 No.98 No.99
 No.100 No.101 No.102 No.103 No.104 No.105 No.106 No.107
 No.108 No.109 No.110 No.111 No.112 No.113 No.114 No.115
 No.116 No.117 No.118 No.119 No.120 No.121 No.122 No.123
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 No.172 No.173 No.174 No.175 No.176 No.177 No.178 No.179
 No.180 No.181 No.182 No.183 No.184 No.185 No.186 No.187
 No.188 No.189 No.190 No.191 No.192 No.193 No.194 No.195
 No.196 No.197 No.198 No.199

POW!

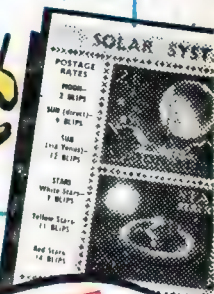


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THE LEGION OUTPOST

Dear Editor:

In ADVENTURE No. 356, Brainiac 5 said he came from the planet Yod; but in No. 362 ("Meet the Legionnaires"), he is said to be from the planet Colu. Have I caught you? And which planet does he come from?

—Mitchell Porten, Philadelphia, Pa.

(Which planet do you come from, Mitch? Earth, you say? But if you were French, you'd have called it "Terre," and if you came from Holland, you'd say it was "Aarde." So Brainiac 5's home world is Yod or Colu, depending on which language of that planet you're using.—Ed.)

Dear Editor:

In No. 360's Legion Outpost, you told Russell Fryman that you might publish some untold tales of Ferro Lad (a good idea, since he only appeared in six issues before his untimely death). Then you added, "—And maybe we'll reveal what his face looked like at the time." I, for one, have always been dying to see Ferro's Lad's face, but suddenly, after seeing that reply, it dawned on me that you have no right to let anyone know. Ferro Lad didn't want people to laugh at him or be repelled by his inhuman features. Honestly, people! That boy saved the galaxy! How dare you even think of revealing his most carefully guarded secret?

—D. Kendrick, West Helena, Ark.

(Well, it would be easy on writer Jim Shooter and artist Curt Swan if they didn't have to dream up an inhuman face for F Lad. But what do you other readers say? Shall we unmask the Boy of Iron, or leave his features a mystery?—Ed.)

Dear Editor:

Let me congratulate you on the wonderful stories you publish in ADVENTURE COMICS. I'm hopelessly addicted to ADVENTURE, especially when you feature my favorite heroes, Mon-El, Cosmic Boy and Colossal Boy. I really think ADVENTURE is the best-

selling magazine on the newsstands here in Manila. Please feature Mon-El more often. My friend, sisters and I like him very much because he's handsome, powerful and has such a nice haircut. I wish you'd grant this request of us Filipino ADVENTURE fans and avid readers (and I do mean avid!)

—Fe A. Panganiban, Manila, Philippines

(Mon-El was so pleased with your letter he almost felt like mailing himself to you—in a Manila envelope, of course.—Ed.)

Dear Editor:

May I refer you to Ken Beeks' letter in the October issue of ADVENTURE? He wanted to know if there would ever be an 80 PAGE GIANT ADVENTURE. Now, my gripe is that you gave him a totally inane and non-informative answer: "We'll leave the prediction department to Dream Girl. As soon as she zeroes in on the answer, we'll let you know." You shouldn't print a letter unless you can give a good answer. And will there be an 80 PAGE GIANT ADVENTURE forthcoming?

—Andy Franklin, Larchmont, N.Y.

(No—but the next 80 PAGE GIANT SUPERBOY will feature all Legion stories, including the origin of the Legion of Super-Pets and the first Adult Legion story, which introduced the Legion of Super-Villains.—Ed.)

Dear Editor:

In "Meet the Legionnaires," you only listed Elastic Lad and Pete Ross as Honorary Members. But recently, in "The Legion Chain Gang," Rond Vidar was elected to Honorary Membership. Am I right?

—Rob Evans, Nicoma Park, Okla.

(Yes, but when we wrote that text, he was off on a SECRET mission, so his name was officially unlisted.—Ed.)

Send all comments, preferably on a postal card, to THE LEGION OUTPOST, National Periodical Publications, 575 Lexington Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022. Please include your Zip Code with your return address.

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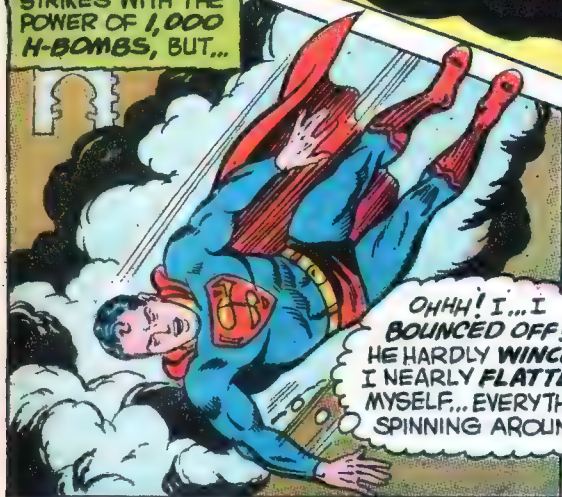
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4,800	2,400
412,800	443,400
340	340
413,140	443,740
293,860	281,260
707,000	725,000

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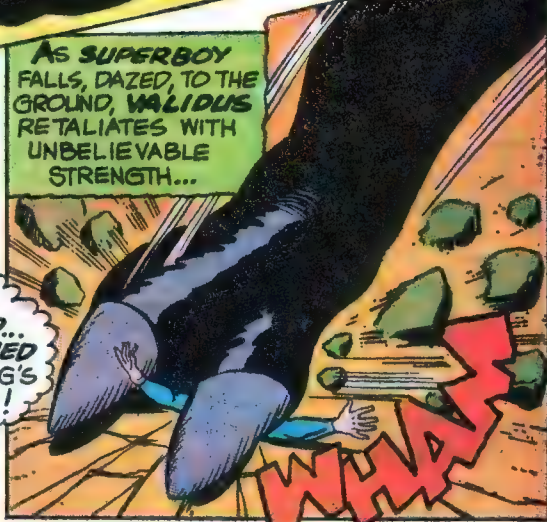
I'LL GAIN SPEED...
HURL MY **WHOLE**
BODY AT HIM...FULL
FORCE...LIKE THIS!

THE BOY OF STEEL
STRIKES WITH THE
POWER OF 1,000
H-BOMBS, BUT...



OHHH! I...I
BOUNCED OFF!
HE HARDLY WINCED...
I NEARLY **FLATTENED**
MYSELF...EVERYTHING'S
SPINNING AROUND!

AS SUPERBOY
FALLS, DAZED, TO THE
GROUND, **VALIDUS**
RETALIATES WITH
UNBELIEVABLE
STRENGTH...



MEANWHILE...



KARATE KID, EH? YOUR
POWER, THOUGH INFERIOR,
IS IN YOUR **HAND**, EVEN AS
MINE IS! THAT SHOULD
MAKE THINGS **INTERESTING!**

NOT FOR **MANO!**
I'M GOING TO STRIKE
SOONER THAN HE
EXPECTS...AND COUNT
ON MY **SPEED** FOR
VICTORY!

BUT...

MISSED! HE'S
AS FAST AS I...
OHH! MY
SHOULDER!



OVERCONFIDENT
FOOL! YOU'RE
LUCKY I **CON-**
TROLLED MY
POWER AND
MERELY **BURNED**
YOU INSTEAD OF
DISINTEGRATING
YOU!

AS THE
WOUNDED
KARATE
KID REELS
IN PAIN...

HE'S TOUCHING THE
GROUND WITH THE
DISINTEGRATOR
DISK ON HIS PALM...
MAKING IT ERUPT
UNDER ME!
AHH-HH!

BAH! THIS
LOPSIDED
HAND-TO-HAND
COMBAT IS NO
SPORT!

AH! I KNOW! I'LL PUT
ON MY PROTECTIVE
GLOVE AND FINISH
YOU OFF THE OLD-
FASHIONED
WAY!

IT'S A PITY
THERE'S NOT
MORE LEFT
TO FINISH!

AND, NEARBY...

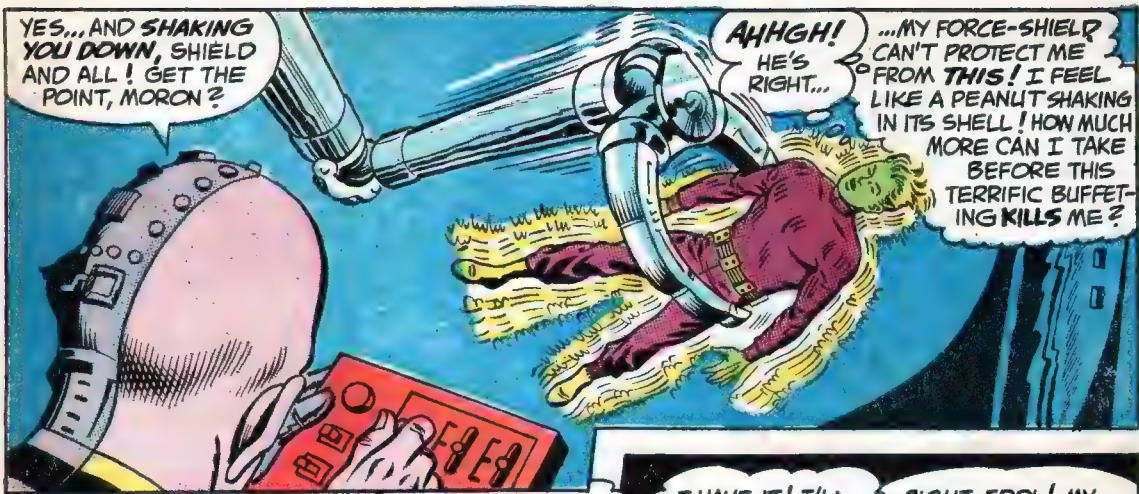
AH, SO YOU HAVE
CHOSEN ME AS
YOUR SLAYER,
EH, BRAINIAC 5?

KNOCK OFF THE
DAYDREAMS,
THAROK! EVEN
YOU CAN'T
PENETRATE
MY BELT'S
FORCE-
SHIELD!

LUCKY I
THOUGHT
TO REMOVE
IT FROM
THE FORCE-
BLASTER!

BAH! YOUR NARROW, TWELFTH-LEVEL
INTELLIGENCE WOULD CONCLUDE
THAT I MUST PENETRATE YOUR
SHIELD TO DESTROY YOU! MY
IMMEASURABLE INTELLIGENCE
HAS FOUND A METHOD OF
CIRCUMVENTING THAT!

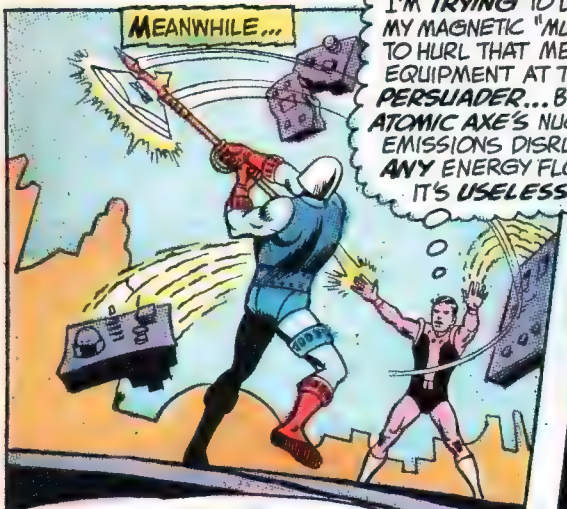
WHA...? A CARGO
ARM FROM THAT
FREIGHT-SHIP...
PICKING ME UP...
SHIELD AND ALL!



YES... AND SHAKING YOU DOWN, SHIELD AND ALL! GET THE POINT, MORON?

AHHGH!
HE'S RIGHT...

...MY FORCE-SHIELD CAN'T PROTECT ME FROM **THIS!** I FEEL LIKE A PEANUT SHAKING IN ITS SHELL! HOW MUCH MORE CAN I TAKE BEFORE THIS TERRIFIC BUFFETING KILLS ME?



MEANWHILE...

I'M TRYING TO USE MY MAGNETIC "MUSCLE" TO HURL THAT METAL EQUIPMENT AT THE **PERSUADER**... BUT HIS ATOMIC AXE'S NUCLEAR EMISSIONS DISRUPT ANY ENERGY FLOW! IT'S **USELESS!**



I HAVE IT! I'LL MAGNETIZE THE **PERSUADER'S** OWN METAL ARMOR TO THAT WALL, AND SLAM HIM AGAINST IT!

RIGHT, FOOL! MY AXE ISN'T MY ONLY WEAPON!

OH-OH... IT ISN'T WORKING!



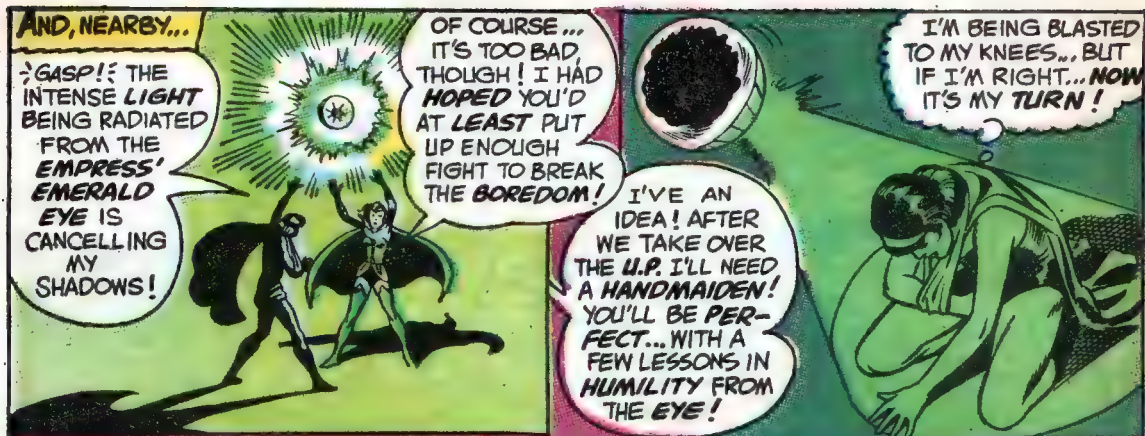
MY GREAT **STRENGTH** ENABLES ME TO **RESIST** YOUR MAGNETIC PULL! AND I'LL USE THAT STRENGTH TO FINISH YOU OFF!

UHH!



I GOT MY NICKNAME AS A **GANGLAND ENFORCER**, USING MY FISTS AND MY AXE TO "PERSUADE" PEOPLE TO COUGH UP **PROTECTION** MONEY! NOW LET'S SEE IF I CAN "PERSUADE" YOU TO **CRAWL**, PUNK!

YOU HEARD ME, **WORM**... **CRAWL!**



AND, NEARBY...

GASP!! THE INTENSE LIGHT BEING RADIATED FROM THE EMPRESS' EMERALD EYE IS CANCELLING MY SHADOWS!

OF COURSE ... IT'S TOO BAD, THOUGH! I HAD HOPED YOU'D AT LEAST PUT UP ENOUGH FIGHT TO BREAK THE BOREDOM!

I'VE AN IDEA! AFTER WE TAKE OVER THE U.P. I'LL NEED A HANDMAIDEN! YOU'LL BE PERFECT... WITH A FEW LESSONS IN HUMILITY FROM THE EYE!

I'M BEING BLASTED TO MY KNEES... BUT IF I'M RIGHT... NOW IT'S MY TURN!



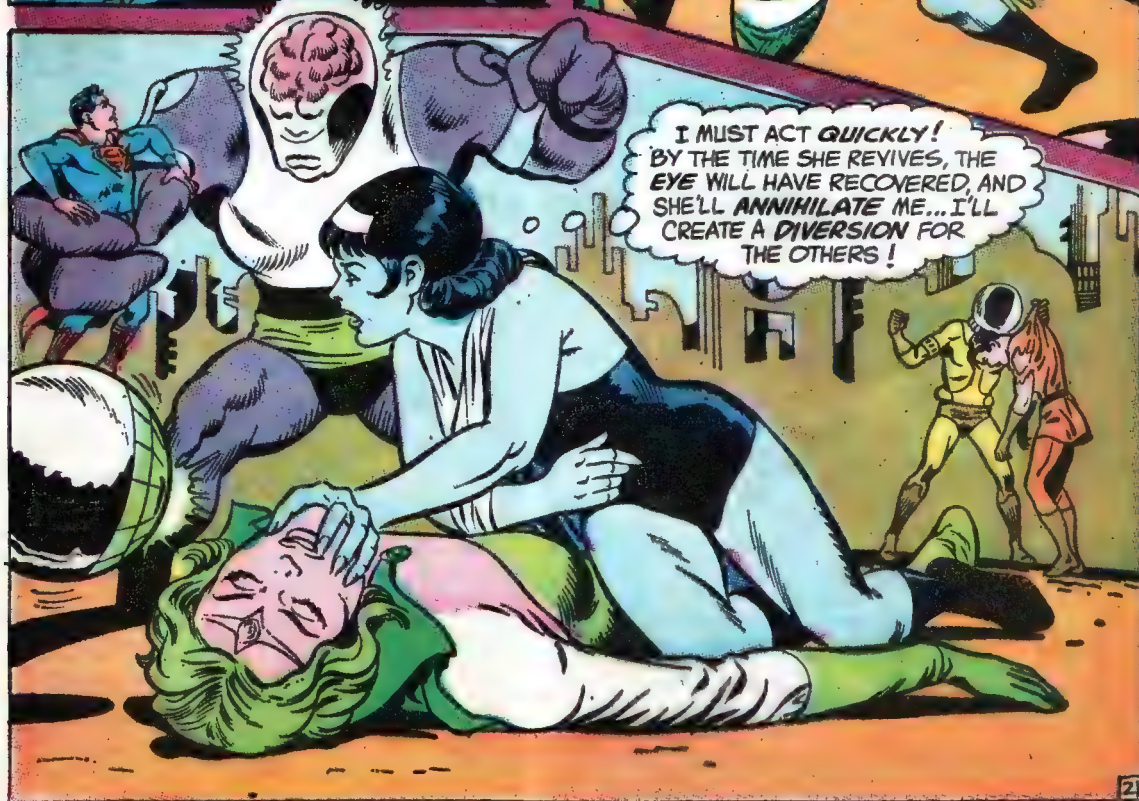
EYE! THE EYE! IT'S BLACKED OUT!

BLAME YOURSELF, GREEN-LOCKS! YOU USED UP MOST OF YOUR GIMMICK'S POWER! NOW LET'S SETTLE OUR LITTLE DISAGREEMENT, WOMAN TO WOMAN!



WHAP!

TOO BAD... NOW I'M THE ONE WHO'S FINDING VICTORY JUST TOO EASY!



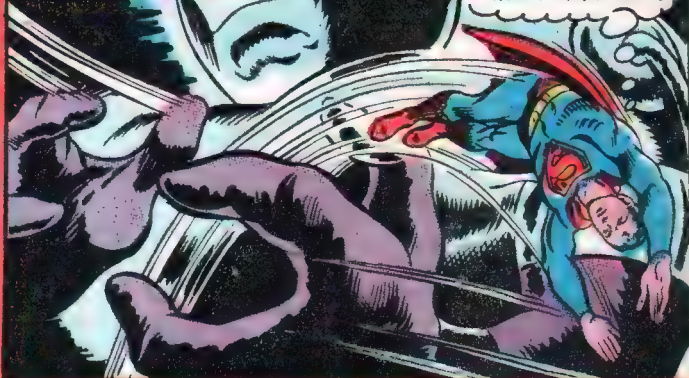
I MUST ACT QUICKLY! BY THE TIME SHE REVIVES, THE EYE WILL HAVE RECOVERED, AND SHE'LL ANNIHILATE ME... I'LL CREATE A DIVERSION FOR THE OTHERS!

I'LL DARKEN THE WHOLE AREA WITH A DEEP SHADOW... AND PRAY THE BOYS CAN TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IT!



AS THE DARKNESS SPREADS...

THOUGH HE'S A DOZEN TIMES MORE POWERFUL THAN I, VALIDUS DOESN'T HAVE SUPER-VISION! I CAN EASILY ELUDE HIM IN THIS DARKNESS!

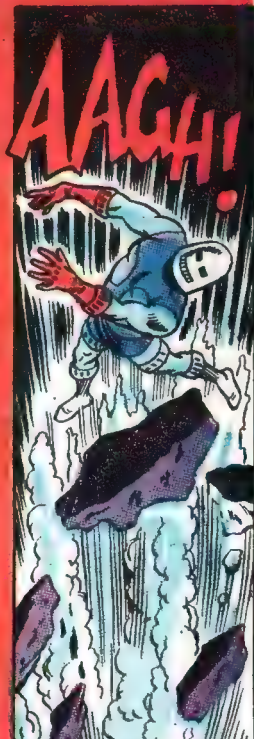


EVERYTHING'S GONE BLACK! SHADY'S WORK!

MANO'S HOME WORLD WAS DARK AND GLOOMY...BUT THIS IS TOO BLACK EVEN FOR HIM! I CAN SEE HIS HAND GLOWING THROUGH THAT GLOVE, THOUGH!



>Whew!! BY SWITCHING OFF MY FORCE-SHIELD, I SLIPPED THE GRIP OF THAT CARGO-ARM! GOOD THING THIS SHADOW COVERED MY ESCAPE, OR THAROK WOULD HAVE NAILED ME WITH HIS RAY-BLASTER!



SUDDENLY, IT'S NIGHT-TIME! LUCKY FOR ME! WITH MY FOE GROPING IN THE DARK, I CAN SEND MAGNETIC RAYS UNDER-GROUND TO WATER PIPES BELOW AND CAUSE THEM TO ERUPT BENEATH THE PERSUADER!



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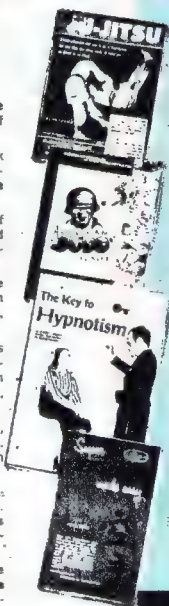
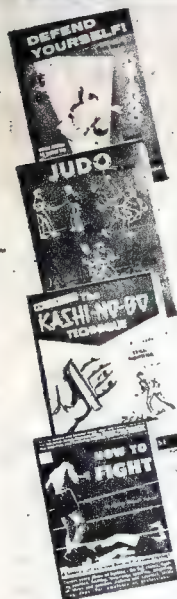
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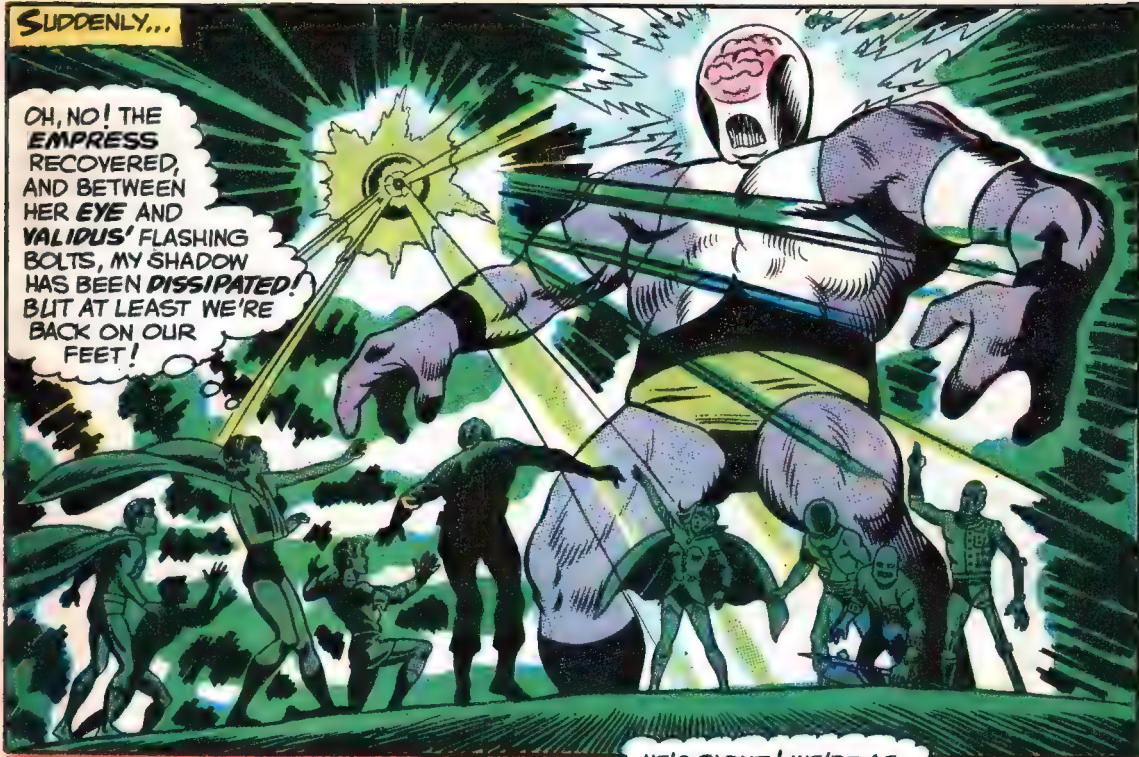
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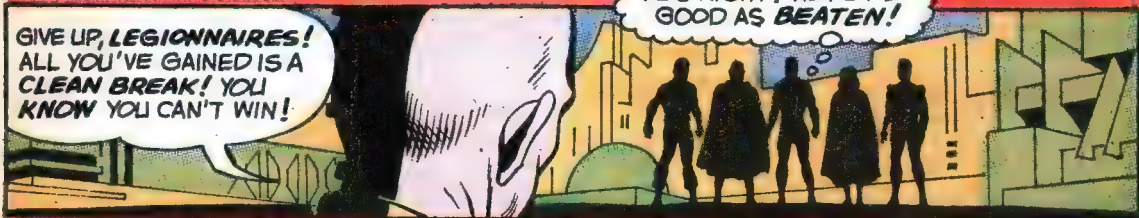
SUDDENLY...

OH, NO! THE EMPRESS RECOVERED, AND BETWEEN HER EYE AND **VALIDUS'** FLASHING BOLTS, MY SHADOW HAS BEEN **DISSIPATED!** BUT AT LEAST WE'RE BACK ON OUR FEET!



HE'S RIGHT! WE'RE AS GOOD AS **BEATEN!**

GIVE UP, **LEGIONNAIRES!** ALL YOU'VE GAINED IS A **CLEAN BREAK!** YOU **KNOW** YOU CAN'T WIN!



BUT, SUDDENLY...

FATAL FIVE... STRIKE... NO! IT CAN'T BE! NO!

LOOK! THE **U.P. FORCES** HAVE FINALLY ARRIVED! THE "**CAVALRY**" HAS COME TO THE RESCUE!



EVEN WE CAN'T DEFEAT THAT MIGHTY SPACE ARMADA! QUICK! WE MAY **STILL** ESCAPE IN ONE OF THE SWIFT **LEGION SHIPS!** **VALIDUS...** FALL BACK AND COVER OUR RETREAT!

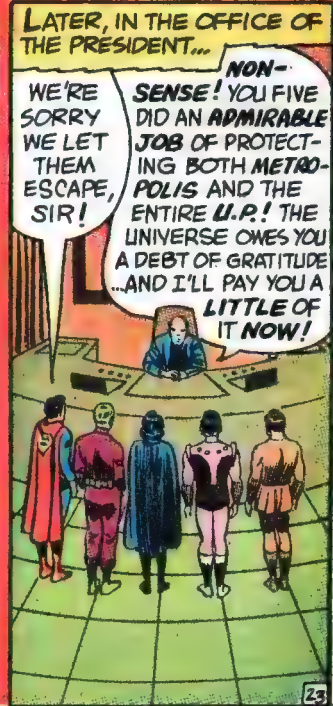
BAH! DEFEATED! THIS IS YOUR FAULT, THAROK!



LATER, IN THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT...

WE'RE SORRY WE LET THEM ESCAPE, SIR!

NON-SENSE! YOU FIVE DID AN **ADMIRABLE** JOB OF PROTECTING BOTH **METRO-POLIS** AND THE ENTIRE **U.P.**! THE UNIVERSE OWES YOU A DEBT OF GRATITUDE...AND I'LL PAY YOU A **LITTLE OF IT NOW!**





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DIRECT CURRENTS

There's a big month coming up! The Secret Six make their debut! Enemy Ace returns! Stanley and His Monster get their own mag! That's only the beginning; for a real surprise, get a load of the new art on LOIS LANE! And now, here's a rundown on coming attractions:

What foes can possibly trap SUPERMAN and BATMAN . . . subject them to incredible mental and physical torments . . . and crushingly defeat the **WORLD'S FINEST TEAM**? We guarantee a million-volt shock awaits you when you learn the identities of the mystery masterminds in the March issue, No. 174, which goes on sale Jan. 25!



SGT. ROCK of EASY COMPANY faces guns aimed directly at his heart when he meets the teen-age guerrilla fighters of UNIT THREE in the thrill-jammed, full-length battle epic—"A FIRING SQUAD FOR THE SERGEANT!" You'll find this sensational saga in the April issue of OUR ARMY AT WAR, No. 192, which goes on sale Feb. 1!



Make way for the BIG one—THE SECRET SIX! Their mysterious leader is called MOCKINGBIRD—and that's all our stalwart six know about him—or her! Why are they summoned to a weird rendezvous with fate? Take a deep breath before you plunge into the first mission of this international sextet, in the epoch making ish No. 1 (May), on sale Feb. 1!

Two HUMAN ATOMS—exploding into combat! Two firm friends—turned into furious foes! An ATOMIC FALLOUT—threatening TWO EARTHS! It's double the action, double the thrills, in "DUEL BETWEEN THE DUAL ATOMS," in the May issue, of THE ATOM, No. 36, which goes on sale at newsstands everywhere on Feb. 1! Need we say—don't miss it!

RED hasn't lost any time, when he returns from the "dead," in rejoining his teammates doing business at the same old stand. And that business is danger and tracking down the unknown—but this time our manhunters become the hunted, when a weirdo releases "THE ROBOT HOUNDS OF CHANG!" May CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN, No. 61. on sale Feb. 1.

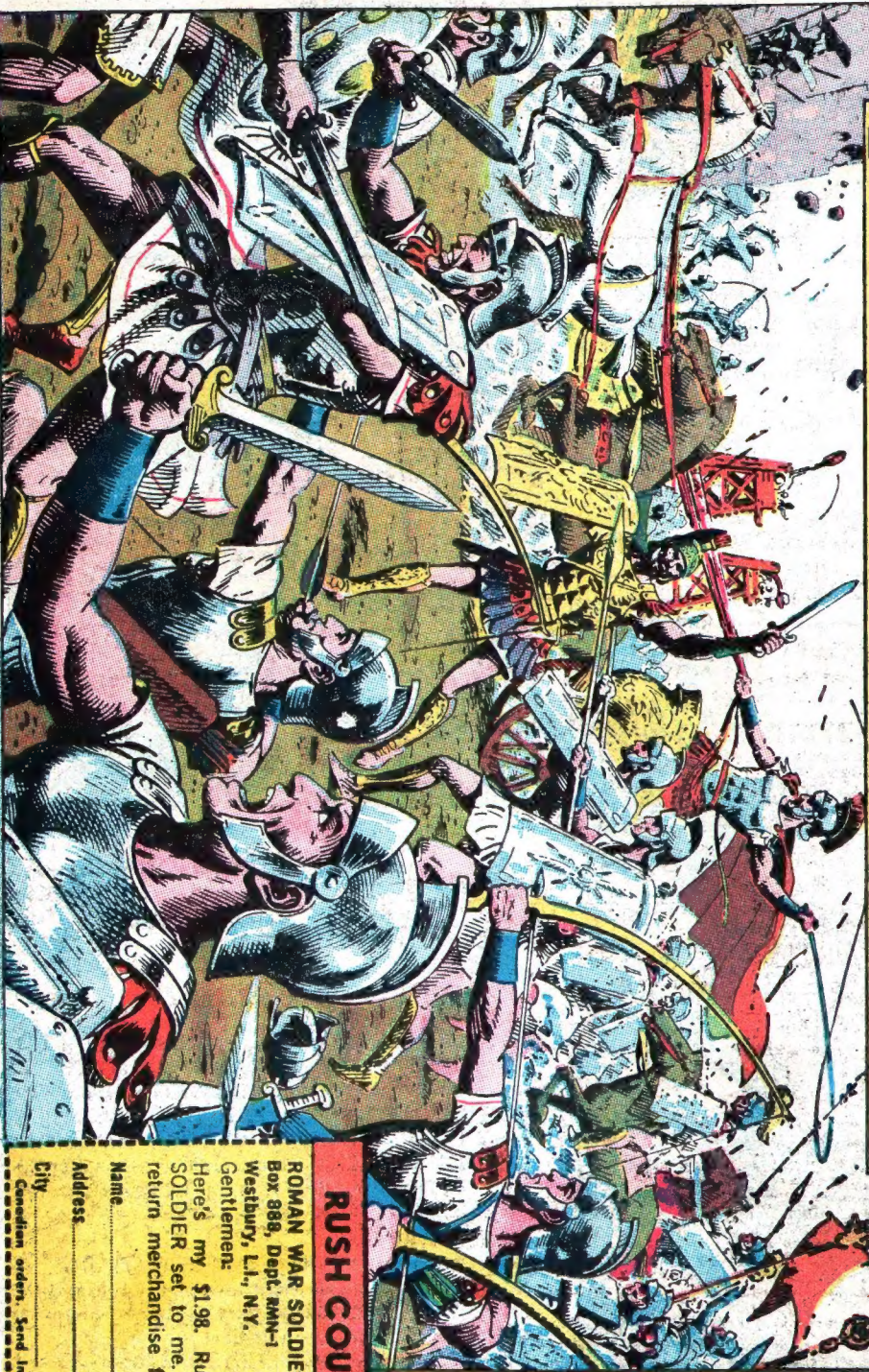
Who is the most dangerous mass-murderer of all time? He's BLACK ZERO! He destroyed the planet KRYPTON. . . and his new assignment is. . . to BLOW UP EARTH! SUPERMAN'S job. . . save Earth and avenge KRYPTON! But the wily world-killing alien has tricks up his sleeve that can stomp the MAN OF STEEL! April issue, No. 205, on sale Feb. 6!

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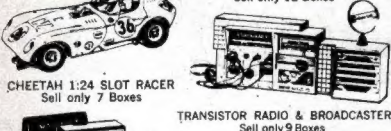
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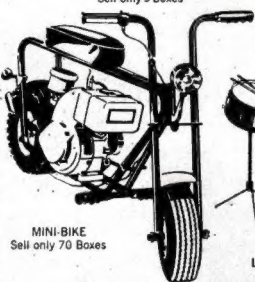


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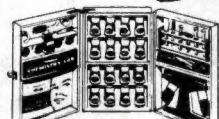


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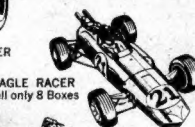


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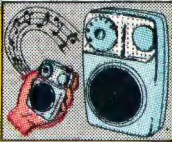
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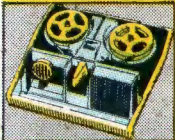
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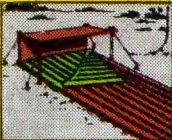
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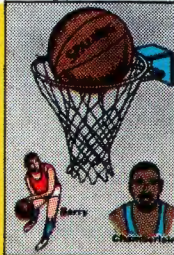
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